

By: Bettencourt

S.B. No. 1062

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the registration and certification of county tax assessor-collectors and their employees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 1151.151, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1151.151. REGISTRATION REQUIRED; EXEMPTION. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the ~~the~~ following persons must register with the department:

(1) the chief appraiser of an appraisal district, an appraisal supervisor or assistant, a property tax appraiser, an appraisal engineer, and any other person authorized to render judgment on, recommend, or certify an appraised value to the appraisal review board of an appraisal district;

(2) a person who engages in appraisal of property for ad valorem tax purposes for an appraisal district or a taxing unit;

(3) an assessor-collector, ~~other than a county assessor-collector,~~

~~(4)~~ a collector, or another person designated by a governing body as the chief administrator of the taxing unit's assessment functions, collection functions, or both; and

(4) ~~(5)~~ a person who performs assessment or collection functions for a taxing unit and is required to register by the chief administrator of the unit's tax office.

1 (b) A county tax assessor-collector or an employee of the
2 county tax assessor-collector is exempt from registration with the
3 department. A county tax assessor-collector may require an employee
4 to register under Section 1151.1515.

5 SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 1151, Occupations Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 1151.1515 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 1151.1515. REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES. (a) An
8 employee of a county tax assessor-collector who is exempt from
9 registration under Section 1151.151(b) may register if the employee
10 satisfies the registration requirements of this chapter.

11 (b) An employee exempt from the registration requirements
12 of this chapter who elects to register or is required to register by
13 a county tax assessor-collector is subject to this chapter.

14 SECTION 3. Sections 1151.160(d) and (g), Occupations Code,
15 are amended to read as follows:

16 (d) A person registered as an assessor or
17 assessor-collector [~~other than a county assessor-collector~~] shall
18 become certified as a registered Texas assessor not later than the
19 fifth anniversary of the date of the person's original
20 registration.

21 (g) A registrant who has not obtained the certification
22 required by Subsection (c), (d), or (e) within the time required by
23 the applicable subsection is entitled to a one-year extension to
24 meet the certification requirements if:

25 (1) the applicant submits proof of active military
26 status performed after the date of the applicant's original
27 registration;

1 (2) the applicant submits proof of leave under the
2 federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. Section 2601
3 et seq.) taken after the date of the applicant's original
4 registration;

5 (3) the applicant submits proof of a death or illness
6 in the family or an unforeseen emergency occurring after the date of
7 the applicant's original registration that prevented the
8 registrant from meeting certification requirements;

9 (4) a county tax assessor-collector, chief appraiser,
10 chief administrative officer of a political subdivision, or other
11 person authorized by the commission by rule requests the extension
12 on behalf of an employee;

13 (5) the applicant requesting the extension is a chief
14 appraiser; or

15 (6) the applicant meets another reasonable
16 qualification for an extension established by the commission by
17 rule.

18 SECTION 4. Section [1151.003](#), Occupations Code, is repealed.

19 SECTION 5. (a) The Texas Commission of Licensing and
20 Regulation shall establish procedures and requirements for the
21 expedited reinstatement of a certification under Section [1151.160](#),
22 Occupations Code, held by an employee of a county tax
23 assessor-collector on June 13, 2013, and nullified by Chapter 429
24 (S.B. 546), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013.

25 (b) An employee of a county tax assessor-collector who was a
26 registrant under Chapter 1151, Occupations Code, on June 13, 2013,
27 and had not obtained the certification under Section [1151.160](#),

1 Occupations Code, on or before that date is entitled to a three-year
2 extension to be calculated from the fifth anniversary of the
3 applicable anniversary date of the person's original registration
4 described by Subsection (c), (d), or (e) of that section to meet the
5 certification requirements. This extension is in addition to the
6 one-year extension authorized under Section 1151.160(g),
7 Occupations Code, if the registrant qualifies for an extension
8 under that section.

9 (c) The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation shall
10 recognize and reinstate the highest pre-certification level
11 achieved by an employee of a county tax assessor-collector who was a
12 registrant under Chapter 1151, Occupations Code, on June 13, 2013,
13 and had not obtained the certification under Section 1151.160,
14 Occupations Code, on or before that date. The department shall
15 recognize all certification courses successfully completed by the
16 employee in the certification process.

17 (d) Not later than December 1, 2015, the Texas Commission of
18 Licensing and Regulation shall adopt rules to implement this
19 section.

20 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.